

**Draft Summary of the Engineering and Operations Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
January 25, 2005**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the Engineering and Operations Work Group (EOWG) meeting on January 25, 2005 via telephone conference.

A summary of the discussions, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present an informational summary for interested parties who could not attend the meeting. The following attachments are provided with this summary:

Attachment 1 Meeting Agenda

Attachment 2 Meeting Attendees

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the EOWG meeting. The Facilitator apologized for her error that resulted in the inclusion of an incorrect list of action items with the meeting announcement and draft agenda for this conference call. She assured the EOWG that the 2003 action items included in the agenda were all completed long ago and no new action items were identified during the last EOWG meeting held in May 2004. The meeting agenda and desired outcomes were reviewed and approved. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees and their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

Study Report E4 Discussion

Ward Tabor (DWR) described the relationship between the flood control aspects of the Oroville Facilities and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and how FERC views its jurisdiction in light of that relationship. He noted that the ACE has exclusive jurisdiction over flood control operations; and therefore, flood control operations were not included in the analysis associated with seeking a new license with FERC. Bill Lewis (Yuba City) asked if there is anything in the FERC regulations that preclude the evaluation of re-operation scenarios, assuming such re-operation would not affect ACE jurisdiction or the existing flood operations manual. Ward responded that nothing in the FERC regulations prevents such an evaluation but nothing compels one either. Gary Bardini (DWR) added that the flood operations manual is currently under review in a different forum and a report is expected soon. The EOWG discussed the potential to provide additional flood storage space and Ward explained that since the primary authority in establishing flood storage space at Oroville is the ACE and since they did not request the potential to add storage space, DWR chose not to include it in the FERC relicensing effort.

Ted Alvarez (DWR) reviewed the study report document and identified the primary authors associated with each section. He noted that the authors were on the conference call and available to answer any questions specific to their sections. The EOWG discussed forecast coordinated operations (FCO) and how that might differ from the current system for project operations. Gary Bardini reviewed the current system, described additional infrastructure for the Feather and Yuba rivers and compared the FCO with the system in place on the American River. Bill Lewis asked if re-operation of Thermalito Afterbay is under consideration. Art Hinojosa (DWR) described past direction from Curtis Creel (DWR) for development of a standing order for Thermalito Afterbay operations that could evacuate the Afterbay during certain flood conditions. This order is currently under development. Gary Bardini also reviewed other studies underway regionally including lower floodplain studies and levee stability reviews that will assist in future coordinated operations of the system.

Bill Lewis asked the Facilitator if any other reports for other work groups have been distributed to the collaborative as 'final' reports. The Facilitator responded that to her knowledge no other reports have first been distributed as final versions.

The EOWG was instructed to direct any comments on the E4 report to Rick Ramirez.

Wrap Up

No further regularly scheduled EOWG meetings are anticipated. The EOWG participants were thanked for their involvement over the past five years.

Action Items

No action items were identified during the meeting.